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| Notice of Allowability | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 10/755,383 | LAM ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Jennifer Doan | 2874 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Request for Continued Examination filed on 5/16/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4 and 7-19.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


JENNIFER DOAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

1. The RCE and amendment, filed 05/16/07 has being acknowledged and entered. By this amendment, claims 1-4 and 7-19 are pending in the application.

Drawings

2. The drawings, filed on 01/13/04, are accepted.

Specification

3. Applicants' cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicants may become aware in the specification.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

4. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Siddhesh V. Pandit on May 24, 2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

Please cancel claim 6.

In claim 7, line 1, please delete "claim 6" and insert - -claim 1--.

In claim 9, line 1, please delete "claim 5, wherein the monitoring unit" and insert -
-claim 1, wherein a monitoring unit --.

Reasons for Allowance

5. Claims 1-4 and 7-19 are allowed.
6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record fails to disclose or reasonably suggest all the limitations recited in claim 1. Specifically, the prior art of record fails to disclose an optical assembly for coupling an optical device to an optical fiber, comprising a lens including a reflecting curved surface for bending and confining a light beam and a focusing curved surface for focusing the light beam, wherein the lens includes an elongated, non-spherical section and the path of the light beam traverses the elongated, non-spherical section between the reflecting curved surface and the focusing curved surface and further wherein the lens is a lens assembly having at least two mating parts, a first mating part including the reflecting surface and a second mating part including the focusing surface, and wherein each of the first and second mating parts include at least one substantially flat mating surface for engaging each other and the substantially fiat mating surfaces are in the optical path of the beam, and at least one of the substantially fiat mating surfaces has a reflective portion shaped to reflect a portion of the beam along a monitoring path in combination with the other limitations of claim 1.

Claims 2-4 and 7-19 depend from claim 1.

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7. A close prior art of record is Zhang (U.S. Patent 6,856,728). Zhang discloses a lensed fiber optic coupler having an elongated, non-spherical section with a reflecting curved surface and a focusing curved surface. However, Zhang does not particularly teach the lens including two mating parts, each has at least one substantially flat mating surface for engaging each other and the substantially flat mating surfaces are in the optical path of the beam, and has a reflective portion shaped to reflect a portion of the beam along a monitoring path.

Therefore, claims 1-4 and 7-19 are allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jennifer Doan whose telephone number is (571) 272-2346. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday from 6:00am to 3:30pm, second Friday off.

9. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rodney Bovernick can be reached on (571) 272-2344. The fax phone

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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

10. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



JENNIFER DOAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER